

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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# Retail Catalogue

## 1935



# Dahlias and Chrysanthemums



This Emblem  
Assures Your Of  
A Square Deal

# Premier Dahlia Gardens

## George H. Swezey

31 Mertz Avenue

## Hillside, N. J.



## TO OUR DAHLIA LOVING FRIENDS

The name Premier is synonymous with superior stock, sturdy plants and high business principals. We express our thanks and appreciation to those that have given their support and are grateful for the many letters commending our stock, our square dealings and telling of successes with the roots and plants purchased of us. We will continue to render the utmost in service and make every transaction entirely satisfactory at all times.

Here are a few abstracts from numerous letters received:

From North Carolina—"The beautiful plants received in grand condition. They are the best I ever purchased; Can't thank you enough."

From Long Island, N. Y.—"Never saw plants in such good condition. The way they were packed they would keep a long time."

From Brooklyn, N. Y.—"Plants and roots ordered of you are doing finely—Was more than satisfied with results last season."

From Alabama—"It is a great pleasure to do business with you."

From Ohio—"I never have received finer looking, better packed plants. They are nice, stocky fellows that carried perfectly."

From Oregon—"Plants arrived in fine condition with exception of one which was broken. All are growing fine." Note:—36 plants made up this 1933 shipment, and a subsequent order of 1934 went thru in perfect condition.

From Long Island, N. Y.—"Have just finished digging the plants I received from you and they certainly made fine clumps and I am more than pleased."

We use our best efforts to keep our stock absolutely healthy and free from disease by the destruction of "stunts" and by discarding those that do not come true.

**OUR GREEN PLANTS** are grown so as to give the maximum of results equal or superior to root stock. This is only accomplished by the selection of healthy vigorous roots benched in a moderate heat that will enable us to take stocky base cuttings. Only a reasonable number of cuttings are taken and none used that are spindly. After cuttings are rooted and potted and begin to grow they are moved to cooler quarters and later shifted to larger pots; at this stage small tubers are beginning to form, assuring that clumps will be obtained at digging time; the plants are later hardened off in "outside quarters" so as to withstand shipping and be in condition for planting out.

## P R E M I E R   D A H L I A   G A R D E N S

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We have kept our list of varieties limited by retaining a very high percentage of those that are placed on the "Honor Roll" consecutive seasons.

The varieties mentioned herein are of exceptional merit and may be grown to Your Complete Satisfaction, if you will Dig Deep, Cultivate Regularly and Keep Insects Under Control, particularly the leaf hopper.

(For spraying we use "Evergreen" or "Red Arrow.")

### READ CAREFULLY

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Owing to the abnormal conditions we have lowered prices and are making further concessions, i. e., on retail orders amounting to \$5.00 to \$10.00, you may select 20% in additional stock free; over \$10.00, 25% free.

**Terms:** Cash with order or 25% deposit, balance at shipping time. Orders over \$1.00 sent prepaid. In ordering green plants to be shipped further than 1st zone, add 25 cents for Special Delivery to insure plants arriving in good growing condition. We pay all other charges.

**Shipments:** Roots, May 1st to June 1st. Plants, May 15th to June 10th.

**Guarantee:** All stock sent out in first class growing condition, guaranteed to be healthy and true to name and to grow if cared for on arrival and after planting and that all not proving such will be cheerfully replaced upon word from the purchaser.

Notify us immediately if anything is unsatisfactory when received or if root does not start to grow within three weeks after planting. Our roots are field grown, in soil treated with Potash, for the production of exhibition blooms.

### READ FREE STOCK OFFER

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**OUR SQUARE DEALINGS HAVE  
BEEN COMMENDED BY ALL**

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**Note:—**We are offering several of Mr. Harry Hunt's new seedlings for the first time and we can recommend them highly. Mr. Hunt has been very successful in producing "New Ones" and be-

## PREMIER DAHLIA GARDENS

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sides winning a number of prizes he was awarded the coveted Achievement Medal for his introduction **Velvet Wonder**. Watch for the showing of **Sarah Kay** at the Fall shows as this beauty will be introduced in 1936 by him.

Order Early to avoid disappointment, as orders are filled in rotation. The stock of some of the varieties is limited.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE H. SWEZEY

PREMIER DAHLIA GARDENS

31 MERTZ AVENUE

HILLSIDE, N. J.

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### JOIN THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

If you are not a member of this great Society you should join by all means. The dues are only \$2.00 the year, which entitles the members to the Bulletin free. The vast amount of usefull information published in each issue of the Bulletin is worth many times \$2.00 to any Dahlia grower.

Mr. C. Louis Alling, West Haven, Conn., is Secretary.

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### 1935 INTRODUCTIONS

**ANALEE McClURE (Broomall-Stephenson)**—A beautiful white informal decorative bordering on the semi-cactus; flowers average 10 to 12 in. with good depth; stems stiff and cane-like; flowers facing never droops or hang their heads. You will agree with Mr. Broomall that it is his finest introduction to date and the best white he has ever seen; good keeper when cut. Plants \$5.00.

**BETTE DAVIS (Cordes) S. C.**—A much needed color of clear deep violet-rose; fine long stems, graceful foliage; free bloomer of excellent exhibition flowers. Winner of many prizes and the American Home Achievement Medal. Plants \$5.00.

**BING CROSBY (Stephenson) I. D.**—Color golden-yellow penciled with carmine. A seedling of **La Fiesta** carrying the same general tones but the colors are deeper and more pronounced; flowers are larger and much deeper, with a high center, perfect stems carry blooms erect facing outward; foliage insect resistant; a glorified **La Fiesta** with none of the faults of the parent. Winner of the Achievement Medal at Los Angeles. Plants \$5.00.

**BLACK KNIGHT (Kemp) I. D.**—Color dark velvety maroon almost black; flowers are of great size often 14 inches in diameter and are held high above foliage on stiff stems; a strong grower, height 6 to 7 feet; prolific bloomer. **Plants \$3.75.**

**DADDY KEMP (Kemp) I. D.**—A most spectacular flower of immense size, often 14 inches and over across and 5 to 7 inches in depth; color is a rich purplish red, should be grown to four canes. **Plants \$5.00.**

**DAISY TURNQUIST (Hulin) I. D. to S. C.**—Deep rose-pink and salmon orange; good stems; an exquisitely lovely dahlia; received a Certificate of Merit at Storrs the past season. **Plants \$3.75**

**DR. KAY (Hunt)**—A giant informal decorative of a beautiful shade of pink; stem ideal; strong sturdy grower; attracted much attention wherever exhibited. **Plants \$5.00.**

**ELMER CASE (Hunt)**—A seedling of Jane Cowl this immense informal decorative of gold with tints of red is going to be in competition with its parent for future honors, very floriferous and without faults. **Plants \$2.50.**

**EVA HUNT (Hunt)**—Another of Mr. Hunt's fine introductions; a most beautiful white informal decorative; petals, very numerous, have a waxy appearance; stems long and stiff, hold massive blooms facing upward. **Plants \$5.00.**

**FORT NELSON (Durnil)**—A new formal decorative that will win for you in the "Autumn Shades" classes and as "Best Specimen." A robust grower, five to six feet high; flowers held high above foliage facing outward; color, light orange-yellow, reverse jasper pink with tints of lavender; a wonderful keeper when cut, in one instance keeping for three days after a 500 mile trip by parcel post and without water 26 hours. Fort Nelson is an exhibition flower in size stem, foliage and keeping qualities. Priced very low for a dahlia that just missed being certified at Storrs; scored 84 in 1931 and again in 1932. **Roots \$1.50.**

**GOLDEN STANDARD (Downs)**—A splendid addition to the cactus class, and while classed as a straight cactus it will doubtless like many others of this class come incurved at times. Form and color are distinctive; golden tan

blushed with tints of amber and bronze. Winner at Camden, N. J., in 1933 as best Cactus Seedling and at New York, 1934 as the best Undisseminated Cactus. Won President's Cup over all types as best undisseminated dahlia. On Mr. Derrill Hart's "Honor Roll" and also The American Home "Preferred List." Plants \$5.00.

**HONOR BRIGHT (Golden Rule)**—A well formed large formal decorative of a self color of peach red to light jasper red; toward the end of season color runs to deep orange; certified at Storrs and introduced in 1934. On Mr. Hart's 1934 Honor Roll. Roots \$5.00; Plants \$2.50

**JEANNETTE HUNT (Hunt)**—A very beautiful giant lavender informal decorative, bush is of branching habits and is covered with big blooms throughout the season; stems perfect; foliage insect resistant. Plants \$2.50.

**KATHRYN HARDT (Hunt) F. D.**—Another of Mr. Hunt's fine introductions having size, perfect stems, ideal growing habits and splendid form and color; dark pink shading to light pink on outer petals. Plants \$2.50.

**KAY FRANCIS (Cordes) S. C.**—Light lemon yellow; very prolific; early bloomer; is a fine keeper and can be cut with very long but not bulky stems; husky grower without faults. This wonderful exhibition dahlia is a winner of 11 firsts and was awarded the Achievement Medal at New York and Camden, N. J. Plant \$5.00.

**MISS BELGIUM (Carlee) Str. C.**— This dahlia while not a 1935 introduction is new to most American growers and is truly beautiful; a straight cactus of clear one toned coral; On Mr. Hart's 1934 Honor Roll. Plants \$1.50.

**MME. FLOR BRAEME (Brame)**—This Belgian incurved cactus was on the 1933 Honor Roll. It is a flower of great beauty; color is old rose and gold. Plants \$1.50.

**MRS. GEORGE LE BOUTILLIER (Smith-Ruschmohr) I. D.**—A giant of rich velvety carmine; of good growing habits and healthy foliage. The outstanding new red that will compete with Murphy's Masterpiece; certified at Storrs 1933 and at East Lansing 1934 and on Mr. Derrill W. Hart's 1934 Honor Roll and The American Home Preferred List. Plants \$5.00.

**OLYMPIC SUNSET (Lee) S. C.**—Color is apricot

orange and coral blended with bright yellow—striking and spectacular; full high centers; strong stems; a very wonderful variety and described by Mr. Hart as a real "art" dahlia; effective in arrangement. On Honor Roll. Plants \$5.00.

**PINK BEAUTY (Lee) Cactus**—Size of bloom 7 in. x 4 in. deep. A seedling of Oriental beauty but having more gracefully waved petals of a lighter shade of pink described as roselane pink, very long strong stems. Any who liked Oriental Beauty will love this lovely dahlia. On American Home Preferred List. Plants \$2.50

**ROCKLEY MOON (Taylor-Ruschmohr) F. D.**—Large flowers of bright yellow on exceptionally strong stems; certified at Storrs 1933 and at East Lansing, 1934. On Mr. Hart's 1934 Honor Roll and American Home 1934 Preferred List. Plants \$5.00.

**VELVET WONDER (Hunt) I. D.**—Mr. Hunt's introductions attracted a great deal of attention at the New York and Camden shows and this one was selected at New York for award of the American Home Achievement Medal; winning also at the New Jersey show and listed on the Honor Roll by Mr. Hart; color is rich deep violet purple; blooms are of great size and depth and attract immediate attention. Plants \$7.50.

**WENOKA (Hulin)**—An enormous formal decorative, with extra fine long stiff stems. We grew this for trial last season and found it all that the introducer claims for it. Color is a rosy mauve. On Mr. Hart's 1934 Honor Roll. Roots \$20.00; Plants \$10.00.

#### SPECIAL OFFERING OF THE HUNT INTRODUCTIONS

We are offering one plant each of Mr. Hunt's six introductions including VELVET WONDER and Dr. KAY for the special collection price of \$18.50 net, delivered by parcel post, special delivery and GUARANTEED to give COMPLETE SATISFACTION.

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#### 1935 LIST OF PRIZE WINNING AND HONOR ROLL DAHLIAS

Abbreviations:— F. D., Formal Decorative; I. D., Informal Decorative; S. C., Semi-Cactus; C. Cactus.

P R E M I E R   D A H L I A   G A R D E N S

Root Plant

<b>AIR MAIL (I. D.)</b>	Lavender, fine for cutting-----	1.50
<b>ALYCE MARIE GALVIN (F.D.)</b>	white tinted pink	3.00 .1.50
<b>AMELIA EARHART (S. C.)</b>	formation and color are most artistic apricot buff base of petals primrose -----	4.00 2.00
<b>AMERICAN LEGION (I. D. to S. C.)</b>	Massive clear yellow on good stem. We have exceptionally good stock -----	2.00 1.00
<b>BETTY COLTER (I. D.)</b>	Light salmon red shading to old rose -----	1.50 .75
<b>CADET (S. C.)</b>	Light primrose yellow; an outstanding 1934 introduction. Blooms large and artistic -----	3.75
<b>CAMEO (I. D.)</b>	A truly beautiful dahlia of light coral pink -----	2.50 1.25
<b>CHAUTAUQUA REGAL (F. D.)</b>	Red and ivory	3.75
<b>CHAUTAUQUA SUNSET (F. D.)</b>	Gold, orange, peach and red -----	5.00 2.50
<b>COURTENAY GUILD (F. D.)</b>	A new shade of mulberry red -----	3.00 1.50
<b>DIXIE RAVENSCROFT (I. D.)</b>	Glowing flame, reverse gold -----	2.50 1.25
<b>DR. JOHN H. CARMAN (F. D.)</b>	Tyrian rose tipped silver -----	.50
<b>DWIGHT W. MORROW (I. D.)</b>	Rich dark red	1.50 .75
<b>EAGLE ROCK FANTASY (I. D.)</b>	Clear mallow pink -----	2.00 1.00
<b>EAGLE ROCK PRINCE (F. D.)</b>	Yellow ochre lighter reverse of jasper red gives coppery yellow sheen effect -----	3.50 1.75
<b>EAGLE ROCK SUPERBA (I. D.)</b>	Light amarauth pink -----	3.00 1.50
<b>ELEGANCE (S. C.)</b>	Center and tips of petals yellow, body of flower coral -----	2.50
<b>ELINOR M. RADELL (I. D.)</b>	Rose and amarauth pink -----	2.50 1.25
<b>ELISSA LANDI (I. D.)</b>	Clear salmon-orange profuse bloomer -----	3.75
<b>EUGENIA BALLAY (I. D.)</b>	Rich cream; very floriferous -----	5.00 2.50
<b>FORT MONMOUTH (I. D.)</b>	Giant rich claret	.75
<b>FORT NELSON (F. D.)</b>	Very fine autumn shades scored 84 at Storr's 1931 and 1932 (See 1935 introductions)   -----	1.50
<b>FULL MOON (F. D.)</b>	Clear golden yellow; wide petalled -----	2.00 1.00
<b>GOLDEN ECLIPSE (F. D.)</b>	Clear yellow, flushed salmon -----	3.00 1.50
<b>GOODNIGHT (I.D.)</b>	Oxblood red shaded maroon	1.50 .75
<b>GOODWILL (S. C.)</b>	Pink and cream. A beauty	5.00 2.50
<b>GRANDEE (I. D.)</b>	Spanish red and golden yellow	10.00 5.00
<b>HARRIET NEALE (I. D.)</b>	The American Home describes this as an improved golden marmion	7.50 3.75
<b>HILLCREST NUGGET (I. D.)</b>	Clear golden shades flushed with bronze and tints of Chinese red -----	3.75
<b>H. R. S. (I. D.)</b>	A very excellent long petalled variety. Dark golden yellow -----	5.00 2.50
<b>INDIANA MOON (I. D.)</b>	Flesh ochre flushed salmon and gold -----	1.00
<b>JANE COWL (I. D.)</b>	Bronzy buff and gold	.50
<b>JANE DEW (I. D.)</b>	A magnificent true clear pink gives an abundance of large blooms -----	4.00 2.00
<b>JANE DIXON (F. D.)</b>	A lovely shade of salmon-	

P R E M I E R   D A H L I A   G A R D E N S

orange -----	3.00	1.50
<b>JERSEY'S DAINTY (C)</b> Handsome white straight to incurred cactus, sometimes flushed lavender; good keeper -----	3.00	1.50
<b>JERSEY'S MAJESTIC (I. D.)</b> Giant of salmon, old rose and gold -----	3.00	1.50
<b>KAWEAH (I. D.)</b> Clear rose cerise-----	3.00	1.50
<b>KING OF BLACKS (F. D.)</b> Dark velvet red -----	3.00	1.50
<b>LADY MOYRA PONSONBY (I. D.)</b> A large deep flower of golden yellow that may be grown to giant size. A consistant prize winner -----	3.00	1.50
<b>LA REINA (F. D.)</b> Gold overlaid with buff-----	3.00	1.50
<b>LAWRENCE TIBBETT (F. D.)</b> Glowing peach pink -----		5.00
<b>LOIS MARION (I. C.)</b> A large beautiful incurved cactus of gold and cream -----	5.00	2.50
<b>LORD OF AUTUMN (I. D.)</b> The outstanding variety of the past season winning wherever shown Outstanding in the garden also. Color, rich golden yellow -----	10.00	5.00
<b>LOUISE BATES (S. C.)</b> Awarded a certificate of merit at Storr's. A hugh lavender on long strong stems; very prolific -----	7.50	3.75
<b>MAN O' WAR (I.D.)</b> Dark rich carmine red. Winner of Achievement Medal in 1932 and on Honor Roll 1933 -----	7.50	3.75
<b>MARY ELIZABETH REDFERN (I. D.)</b> Color deep orchid rose; winner in seedling classes 1932 and 1933 -----	7.50	3.75
<b>MISS DELAWARE (F. D.)</b> A full flower of large size; color beautiful rose pink -----	1.50	
<b>MONMOUTH GENERAL (I. D.)</b> Bright hema color -----	2.25	1.00
<b>MONMOUTH PENNANT (I. D.)</b> A beautiful bi-color of orange-scarlet and white -----	2.25	1.00
<b>MONMOUTH QUEEN (F. D.)</b> A fine dahlia of pleasing color effect, picrie yellow center with graduation of light primrose to cream; prolific bloomer -----	6.00	3.00
<b>MONMOUTH RADIANCE (I. D.)</b> We did not see the beauty of this variety until late in the season and we believe it will stand early planting. Mr. Kemp describes the color as light coral pink front effect with deep rose background that radiates throughout the entire flower; winner American Home Achievement Medal 1933-----	7.50	3.75
<b>MONMOUTH SUNBURST (F. D.)</b> Lemon yellow with salmon-orange background; flowers face upward on stiff stems; exceedingly prolific bloomer -----	5.00	2.50
<b>MURPHY'S MASTERPIECE (I. D.)</b> Hugh dark red shading to garnet. One of the largest -----		2.50
<b>NANNIE SINE (F. D.)</b> A lovely color of spinel pink and a very satisfactory grower -----	2.50	1.25
<b>ORIENTAL GLORY (I. D.)</b> Brilliant deep orange On 1933 H. R. and a winner of many firsts the past season -----	7.50	3.75
<b>ORINGO (I. D.)</b> Color effect is a graduation of golden orange to rich salmon orange from front to rear petals. Flowers attain massive\proportions and are very deep; prolific bloomer -----	5.00	2.50
<b>PALO ALTO (I. D. to S. C.)</b> Flowers are of fine form in salmon of two tones, bright pinkish salmon to salmon-gold, bushes covered with blooms		

P R E M I E R   D A H L I A   G A R D E N S

Root Plant

throughout entire season; stems straight, long and stiff. A great favorite with visitors -----	5.00	2.50
<b>PASTEL GLOW (I. D.)</b> Another worth while variety that bears many blooms on spreading bushes; color white with mallow purple reverse which shows through, giving a glow of orchid-violet iridescence -----	4.00	2.00
<b>PAUL PFITZER (C.)</b> German incurred to straight cactus color a beautiful combination of primrose and shell pink. A most satisfactory variety -----	2.50	1.25
<b>PRESIDENT F. D. ROOSEVELT (F. D.)</b> Awarded a certificate of merit at Storr's; color, Chinese red with fawn edge and cream reverse -----	5.00	2.50
<b>PENN CHARTER (I. D.)</b> Large flowers of gold tinted reddish apricot -----	.75	
<b>PRINCE OF PERSIA (I. D.)</b> Attractive giant red -----	1.00	
<b>PRINCETONIAN (I. D.)</b> Light orange-yellow and coral pink, petals twist and curl; 11 inch blooms on ideal stems -----	5.00	2.50
<b>PURPLE WONDER (I. D.)</b> Pansy purple, rose-lavender reverse -----	3.00	1.50
<b>R. A. BROOMFIELD (I. D.)</b> Saffron-orange flushed rose -----	5.00	2.50
<b>RAINBOW END</b> Scarlet and gold decorative -----	3.50	1.75
<b>ROBERT EMMET (I.D.)</b> A very handsomely formed flower of large size; color bright cardinal; prolific bloomer -----	4.00	2.00
<b>ROSETTA (I. D.)</b> Giant flowers of old rose shading to yellow at base; continual bloomer -----	5.00	2.50
<b>RUBY TAYLOR (I. D.)</b> Carmine -----	4.00	2.00
<b>RUDY VALLEE (S. C.)</b> Apricot and gold; very handsome -----	2.00	1.00
<b>SATAN (S. C.)</b> Flaming scarlet, salmon-orange at base of petals -----	2.00	1.00
<b>SONNY BOY (I. D.)</b> Massive blooms of old rose flushed old gold -----	5.00	2.50
<b>SPOTLIGHT (I. D.)</b> Clear sulphur-yellow, lighter at tips; blooms 10 to 12 inches across and 6 inches deep long rigid stems. Winner of Achievement medal 1933 -----	7.50	3.75
<b>SULTAN OF HILLCREST (ID)</b> Giant blooms are very attractive; color clear gold flushed bronze -----	5.00	2.50
<b>THE FIREMAN (I. D.)</b> Flashy cardinal red; you will like it -----	5.00	2.50
<b>WASHINGTON GIANT (I. D.)</b> A real lavender streaked with silver. American Home Achievement Medal Winner in 1933 and a prize winner at 1934 shows -----	5.00	2.50
<b>WHITE KNIGHT (F. D.)</b> A very fine dependable white -----	2.50	1.25
<b>WHITE WONDER (I. D.)</b> One of the very largest and a good white -----	3.00	1.50
<b>WOOLROC (I. D.)</b> Orange buff reverse old rose Awarded a certificate of merit at Storrs 1933-----		3.75

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MINIATURE OR CHARM DAHLIAS

Considerable interest is being shown in the Miniature types and we are therefore including in this catalog two 1935 Honor Roll introductions and also five standard favorites.

P R E M I E R   D A H L I A   G A R D E N S

Root Plant

<b>MINNIE MOUSE</b> 1935 (McIlhany) A beautiful small compact Pompon, Burgandy colored with white ears; A consistant winner and on Mr. Hart's Honor Roll -----	1.00
<b>PERSIMMON</b> 1935 (McIlhany) A marvelous little little miniature which is true persimmon color; Scored 89 at East Lansing; Winner of blue ribbons at three Pacific Coast shows and on Mr. Hart's Honor Roll -----	2.50
<b>AGALIA MIN. DEC.</b> Orange fawn overlaid salmon -----	.50
<b>BABY ROYAL, MIN S. C.</b> —Gold medal miniature from England. Winner of many firsts; a delightful and dainty, flower of salmon-pink with gold shadings -----	.50
<b>BISHOP OF LLANDAFF</b> —A tiny duplex from Wales; rich deep red with dark eye and nearly black foliage -----	.50
<b>LITTLE JEWEL (MIN F. D.)</b> —Bloom 2x1, color peach blossom pink; especially fine for decoration -----	.35
<b>PINK PEARL (MIN. PAE to DEC.)</b> —Lovely rose pink with golden disc; petals wave and twist like an aster flower -----	.50
<b>SPECIAL—ONE PLANT EACH OF THE SEVEN VARIETIES FOR -----</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>

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**EARLY FLOWERING HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS**

The varieties we supply are perfectly hardy provided they are not water soaked all winter or frozen by lying in ice that has formed about them. They should be given a slight protection of dry leaves, straw, pine needles or peat and if in well drained soil will survive without any losses. They should be divided in the spring so that one shoot remains to make the future plant. Open flowers are injured by the severe frosts, but the unopened buds are unharmed and flowers may be enjoyed long after the Dahlia blooms are gone.

We offer plants from 2½-inch pots at greatly reduced costs, giving an opportunity to secure collections carefully balanced in colors of white, pink, amber, orange, yellow and others.

Six plants for ----- \$1.00  
 Fifteen plants for ----- 2.00  
 One hundred plants for ----- 10.00

**Used in conjunction with Dahlias they make a most glorious fall garden.**

**Note—Chrysanthemums cannot be shipped outside Japanese beetle zone.**

**PREMIER DAHLIA GARDENS**

George H. Swezey

31 Mertz Avenue, Hillside, N. J.

## HOW TO GROW GIANT DAHLIAS

Dahlias are easily grown, requiring no special skill to bring them to perfection.

They prefer a sunny location but do well in partial shade but should not be planted near large trees or close to buildings.

They grow best in light, porous soil having good drainage. Sand, pulverized wall plaster, or fine coal ashes should be added to lighten heavy clayey soils.

If manure is used it should be well rotted (best applied in the Fall) and thoroughly mixed with the soil which should be dug deep (12 to 18 inches).

A green cover crop of Winter Rye planted in the Fall and turned under in the Spring will add valuable humus to the soil. If the ground is worked over early in the Spring, good results will be obtained by planting a cover of Oats and Canada Field Peas. Green cover crops should not be permitted to grow tall and harden and should be turned under when about 12 inches high. They will then rot in from two to three weeks without loss of their benefits. About a week before planting time broadcast and spade under, commercial fertilizer of 4 per cent nitrogen, 8 per cent phosphoric acid and 6 per cent potash (advertised as 4-8-6). Five pounds should cover approximately 200 square feet.

Dahlias may be planted from May 1st to July 1st, but in this locality June 1st to June 15th is best. They should be planted three feet apart in rows and the rows should be at least three feet apart, four feet or more is better if room is available.

Drive a stake to support each plant. The stake should be four or five feet above ground.

Never plant clumps, but separate the tubers, planting only one in each hole, being sure they have a growing eye. Lay tuber flat with eye up and two or three inches from the stake and about six inches deep. Cover two inches with pulverized soil gradually filling to level as plant progresses. Keep the top soil finely pulverized at all times by cultivating frequently; never allow it to harden.

Watch for cut worms and protect plants from same by placing a ring of roof paper cut three and one-half inches high about the plant. If plant does not do well examine it closely and if it contains a stalk borer a small hole will be found in the side. Squirt a few drops of a mild solution of Black Leaf 40 in the hole. If the plant does not improve in a few days cut back the plant until

you find the borer. Shade the plant from direct rays of sun for two or three days and it will in all probability make a quick recovery and a healthy growth. If troubled with *Aphis* or Leaf Hopper spray with "Evergreen" or "Red Arrow." Red Spider may be controlled by spraying foliage with hose. Coloidal Sulphur used as a spray is highly recommended for Red Spider.

Some growers make compact bushes of their plants by pinching out the top when three sets of leaves appear.

Never allow more than one or two stalks to grow (the flowers will be finer if only one is permitted), pull out all others.

Tie plants to stakes securely as they grow in height.

About August 1st broadcast unleached wood ashes over the soil, using about one-half pound to each hill. Keep this a few inches away from the Dahlia stalks and scatter about the plant in circle about 12 inches wide.

When buds appear scrape away enough earth and put in a trowel full of sheep manure, replace the earth and water with two or three pails of water. Repeat every two weeks and wonderful blooms may be had.

Stop cultivation and give plenty of water when flowers appear. A thorough wetting of the soil once a week will improve the blooms extensively. Disbud for large blooms by removing the two side buds, leaving main bud on each shoot; also remove the laterals below this bud to the third or fourth set; this will make long stems to your blooms.

After the frost kills the plants, dig carefully so the necks of the tubers will not be broken; cut back the stalks to three or four inches, turn down to permit to drain; dry in sun three or four hours and place (stems down) in paper lined boxes or barrels, covering with paper, bags or carpet. Dry clean sand or dried peat is also used successfully for storage. Keep in cool, dry place and examine from time to time. Do not permit them to dry out and remove decay or mold if found.

In Spring, when eyes have developed, divide clumps with sharp knife or shears, leaving eye to each tuber.

### GREEN PLANTS

Set green plants so that the earth ball is from two inches below surface of the ground where soil is heavy, to three inches in light soil. If of a clayey nature add sand or ashes, working or mixing well into the soil. Water well and protect from sun for two or three days.

Note—We shade our newly set plants with shingles, pitching them at an angle to afford more shade, and set in a three-quarter circle with open end toward the North.



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